

Wonderful Future in Store for Baseball in Europe, Say Soldiers and Civilians Back From Allied Nations

BASEBALL RUNNING AMUCK IN EUROPE

Game Spreading Like Wildfire Through Great Britain, France and Italy.

PRO' LEAGUE THE LATEST

By SHORTSTOP.

The announcement last week that a professional baseball organization, the Anglo-American League, would be launched in England and France next spring is only a natural sequence of the remarkable strides baseball has made in Europe in the last year.

Soldiers and civilians returning from France and Britain during the last few months all tell the same story of the wonderful future in store for baseball in Europe. "And baseball has just been given its first push," said a Canadian soldier back from the front. "Wait till it gets around a bit and begins to spread by its own impetus."

"One Sam only had thousands of soldiers over there when the cold weather came where he will have hundreds of thousands by the spring. By the time they start to knock that horse around next spring you'll hear the cry all over France."

Returning Americans and Canadians are sanguine over the spread of baseball in Europe because the children are taking it up. Despite their hardships and struggles the French kids are learning baseball fast and play it with the same energy that characterizes the military efforts of their fathers and brothers.

The French Like It.

There are no people in the world that go to baseball like the French once they know a little more about it. And they are learning fast, said this soldier. "The French have taken rather kindly to English soccer, but it has no hold there the way it has in England. And in another season or so baseball should leave soccer far behind."

Ray reports of the spread of the game in England also have reached us. The American entry into the world war was the big entering wedge for baseball into Britain. It is unlikely that baseball ever will become the national game of England, as many of our soldiers see signs of becoming in France, but from now on it is likely to become quite a factor in British sports.

Formerly there was considerable prejudice against baseball in England because it was an American sport. But the prejudice has melted like a mist before a full orb sun. Instead of an American brand on a sport being a mark of disapproval it is now the biggest boost in its favor. Nothing indicates better how the tide is shifting than the fact that the British navy is experimenting with baseball as a means of recreation. The beauty of baseball is that you can play it most anywhere. All you really need is a room for the nine and the three bases. If the outfield is partly in the ocean or in a thick brush it makes the game all the more exciting.

Now interested in promoting the game professionally in England are dozens of having the professional soccer players take it up. These men, coming from England to our American baseball heroes, the soccer season takes in the fall and early winter. Should the soccer stars play baseball in summer, it no doubt would bring many of the soccer fans to the ball game.

"Perhaps the most encouraging sign in the progress baseball is making in England is that Englishmen actually are trying to learn the rules," said an American recently returned from London. "They try to interpret them from English newspapers, and arrive at some strange conclusions. They also are backward in telling you that the American players also put in some most interesting games."

A story which is being told on the wireless stage may have been a bit exaggerated since being pitched across the Atlantic, but according to this informant, the incident really came up in one of the games played by Canadian soldiers. It was worth repeating.

Two Canadian companies had ball game, and they were not hot rivals. Everybody knew it, so no one would venture to umpire. An English soldier who had seen some of the games, seeing to be a good sportsman, volunteered to officiate.

He had learned to tell the difference between strikes and balls, and got along admirably until the middle of the game, when the pitcher for one of the companies began to grow very wild. He hit and a base on balls filled the air.

Had No Place to Put Him.

The pitcher continued to go wild and hit four straight balls to the next batsman.

"Ball four, you're out!" yelled the umpire.

The batsman of course raised an awfully big fuss, and so the umpire said, "What does mean, he's out?"

But the Tommy sergeant remained calm. "You're out, according to the rules," he explained, "because there is no place to put you. I can't put two of you in first base, because the rules say only one man can occupy a base at one time."

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It is taking up our baseball, the Italian government having recently sent an American athlete to teach the game to the soldiers. Even the German soldiers "entertained" at North Carolina and German resorts have found baseball quite a solace and have become very fond of the game.

It is almost a tragedy that the whole world is embracing the game. The minor league game in this country should be the very best. While the big leagues occupy the baseball field of the nation, the real baseball fan cannot help feel a pang of regret that while plans are being made for the first professional league abroad simultaneously the International League, the American National League of the country, and the minor leagues are all suffering from a continuous state of shipwreck.

HARDSHIP FOR CUBS.

Will Not Be Able to Obtain Special Cars for Trip to Coast.

Chicago, Feb. 23.—The transportation of a major league ball club with all of its baggage and equipment to the middle West for the first time this spring will be a difficult task for the Chicago National League club, according to reports.

A year ago the Chicago club made the journey to the coast in a special train of eight cars, including a diner, a buffet car, a baggage car, and a sleeping car. The party consisted of more than seventy-five persons and the trip was made at two points from which side trips were taken.

This year the club management has been notified that when the party is ready to start for California there will be no special train. The party will have to travel in a regular passenger train, with sleeping cars attached to a mail train, and no dining car service over the road or stopping car service over the road. Another and longer route, which would have dining car service,

Three Local Players Starring on Wanderers Hockey Team



BIG HOCKEY TREAT ON TAP TO-MORROW

Wanderers Clash With Unbeaten Pittsburgh Seven in St. Nicholas Rink.

Two of the best hockey matches of a decade are expected to result when the fast Wanderers clash with the unbeaten Pittsburgh A. A. septet in the St. Nicholas Rink to-morrow and Wednesday evenings. No two classic amateur sevens ever crossed sticks, and spectators are sure to get their fill of all the thrills that go to make hockey the wonderfully attractive sport it is.

That the Wanderers have found themselves was amply exemplified in the great game with the Boston Navy Yard seven last Monday, the local aggregation taking the victory after three extra periods. Considering the brand of hockey displayed by Captain Duffreese's boys last Monday night, it is hard to see how any amateur seven can take the measure of the Wanderers. The team's record of the season is a perfect record of the Wanderers.

The Wanderers will have an old score to settle for on their visit to Pittsburgh. The Smoky City seven handed them two defeats, winning the first game by a score of 5 to 3 and repeating the trick by a score of 6 to 4 two days later. The local seven was handicapped greatly by the peculiar layout of the Pittsburgh rink, which has unusually low sideboards. The two games this week will be played in a rink with boards of regulation height and the Smoky City seven are very likely to get a surprise.

Must Watch Roach.

"Moore" Heffernan's absence has not slowed up the Wanderers to any extent even if it did cause some shifts in the lineup. Long Tom McCarthy was swung back to center point and Percy Bill McKinnon, the New Haven rookie, put on the right wing. McKinnon's eligibility has been questioned, and if the Numege is declared from playing Duke Wellington will be injected into the fray.

Mickey Roach at center will be the one man the Smoky City aggregation will have to watch, and they know it. Mickey never before has flashed the sensational hockey he is showing at the present time. The red haired youngster is playing a game that would do credit to a Hod Stuart, a Harry Hyland or an Art Ross. If the Smoky Pittsburgh A. puts all its efforts to boxing up Roach they will find the Wanderers have a few other marksmen just as good. Turk Smith is going great guns and is improving all the time.

Star Aggregation in Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh A. A. has a great aggregation and New Yorkers will find the work of Bruce and the two McCormicks, especially that of Larry, a revelation. McCormick on the right wing is no slouch. Fuller is a great goal tender, and has an able subsidiary defense in front of him in Madden and Nagle. In Baker, Quinn and Scherzke the Pittsburgh A. A. has a trio of strong substitutes. When the skirmishing lines are thrown out to-morrow evening the seven probably will face off as follows:

Soccer Games To-Day.

Metropolitan League Will Try to Play Title Matches.

Soccer teams in the Metropolitan Football League have scheduled four games for this afternoon, including a double header at Glen Park. Yorkers. The La Sullans, having played five games, are leading with ten points, although tied in points by the White Rose eleven and the Longfellow, both of which have played seven games. To-day's schedule follows:

Longfellow vs. Visitation F. C. at Taft's Oval. Tyrconnell Celts vs. Morse Dry Dock at Bay Ridge. Yorkers vs. Fifth Avenue Coach at Glen Park. Yorkers, Yorkers (second game) vs. Prospect F. C. at Glen Park.

N. Y. A. C. TO KEEP UP PATRIOTIC WORK

Will Equip Athletically Every Transport Sailing From New York.

HIPPODROME BENEFIT FOUR AT HEALY'S RINK

By GEORGE B. UNDERWOOD.

No club in the world has made so much sporting history as the New York A. C. The Mercury Foot emblem has embossed on the breasts of countless champions on tracks and field, in boxing, wrestling, shooting, rowing, fencing, swimming, tennis, golf, hockey, skating, in every known branch of amateur sport the Red and White athletes have harvested many laurels. Its champions have carried the Mercury Foot all over the globe. Whether at home or in far foreign fields wherever the Mercury Foot is seen the emblem is recognized as the trade mark of merit and efficiency, the totem of champions triumphant.

Back of all the brilliant athletic successes have been a wonderful clan and a whole school of patriots. An athlete was expected to do much for his club, but more for his country. Whenever a Mercury Footer entered the lists in Olympic or international competition he knew he must outdo himself. Ringing in his ears was the final instruction: "You are competing for your country as well as your club now. Much as you have done for the Mercury Foot, more you must do for Old Glory. You have given unstintingly of strength, skill, grit and courage for the club. Now you have thought you were giving your all. But you haven't. Reach down in your very soul, tap the last vein for the winning punch. It's in you. Out with it for the honor of Old Glory and Uncle Sam."

Made Sport Do Its Bit.

When this country was driven into the terrible European holocaust the New York A. C., true to its high motives, discarded sports for sports' sake and bent all efforts to making sport do its bit for Uncle Sam.

The Mercury Footers dropped the making of champions and set to work making good soldiers. All the resources and energies of the club were directed toward providing training and entertainment for the boys in army khaki and navy blue.

During the last year the New York A. C. has expended approximately \$4,000 in supplying boxing gloves and athletic equipment to various army posts. It donated about \$2,000 to various patriotic enterprises, such as the New York Public Library, the American Red Cross, the United States Naval Training Station at Pelham Bay. The games provided entertainment for 25,000 enlisted men and one of the grandest spectacles at the Polo Grounds netted \$400 for the two teams, which was used for the purchase of athletic supplies.

Many Meets Arranged.

The New York A. C.'s patriotic activities will be even greater this year than last. Among the things the Mercury Footers have set out for themselves to do is to provide every transport sailing from the port of New York with boxing gloves, medical balls and other athletic equipment and also to continue furnishing army canteens and naval stations with the same.

The club will stage athletic competitions for enlisted men once a month at Camp Upton, Camp Merritt and Pelham Bay Naval Station, and also at least one at each of the army and navy posts around New York. In addition, the club will stage open air boxing shows during the spring, summer and fall at the different army posts. It will put two baseball teams on the diamond for the express purpose of playing teams from the various posts. It will provide all expenses for the soldier and sailor boys.

All this will incur a tremendous outlay. To help provide the necessary funds the New York A. C. has obtained the Hippodrome for Sunday evening, March 10, and will give one of the greatest theatrical and vaudeville concerts ever staged in New York. Most of the prominent theatrical men in New York are members of the New York A. C. All of them will donate talent and cash to working hard to make the affair a brilliant success. A wonderful program is being arranged. When it is announced New Yorkers will be astounded. There never has been anything like it.

SOLDIERS PLAY GOLF.

Two Courses Laid Out at Camp Wheeler, Mecon.

CAMP WHEELER, Mecon, Ga., Feb. 23.—Private C. W. Hall of Third Company, No. 3 of the supply train, and Camp Athletic Director John Brodus, former world all-around athletic champion, have constructed two golf courses here for the soldiers.

One of the courses has been laid out on the drill field of the Fifty-sixth P. A. Brigade and has the holes of the following lengths: No. 1, 220 yards; No. 2, 180 yards; No. 3, 220 yards; No. 4, 220 yards; No. 5, 220 yards; No. 6, 220 yards; No. 7, 220 yards; No. 8, 220 yards; No. 9, 220 yards; No. 10, 220 yards.

The other course is located on the northwest of the Eighth Field Artillery. The first and ninth holes are laid out on the drill field. There are a number of interesting and well trapped holes on the grassy section of the course. The distances are: No. 1, 420 yards; No. 2, 320 yards; No. 3, 200 yards; No. 4, 310 yards; No. 5, 220 yards; No. 6, 200 yards; No. 7, 405 yards; No. 8, 180 yards; No. 9, 500 yards.

Hall was drafted into the army from Birmingham, where he held the position as golf instructor at the Birmingham Country Club. Golf balls and clubs are furnished to the soldiers and officers to the camp athletic director. Tournaments are held every Saturday.

HAVERFORD TO PLAY N. Y. U.

Teams Will Meet on Gridiron Here on October 12.

HAVERFORD COLLEGE, Feb. 23.—Haverford College has arranged a football schedule calling for eight games. The feature of the schedule from the scholar and Black viewpoint is that both the big games, those with Franklin and Marshall and Swarthmore, will be played on the home gridiron. New York University, Pennsylvania Military College and Lafayette have taken the places of Utica, Lebanon Valley and the Navy on the schedule. The dates are as follows:

McINTIRE TO COACH ALONE.

West Virginia Football Mentor Signs New Contract.

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., Feb. 23.—It was announced to-day that Tommy McIntire, for two years joint head coach of West Virginia's successful football team, had been selected head coach with full authority for the season of 1918. Biggie Tobin, Penn. State '14, who had acted with McIntire for two years, was not reneged the athletic committee, deciding that it would be best not to elect more than one coach at this time because of unsettled conditions. McIntire is a West Virginia man and captained the football team in 1908. He coached at West Virginia Wesleyan in 1912 and 1913 and came to West Virginia as assistant to Col Metzger in 1913.

3 CORNERED HOCKEY SERIES ARRANGED

Amateur League Schedules Six Games in Championship Tourney.

FOUR AT HEALY'S RINK

By GEORGE B. UNDERWOOD.

Although there are only five weeks of indoor skating, the Amateur Hockey League plans to keep things moving far better than it did at the beginning of the winter. At that time

it was not believed possible to arrange an amateur hockey series. Since then things have changed and the announcement that the St. Nicholas Hockey Club would put a team on the ice has made it possible for the league to arrange a three cornered series for the final weeks of the season.

Three teams will take part in the series. One will represent the Crescent Athletic Club, another will be a combination organization made up of members of the New York Athletic Club and the Hockey Club of New York, and the St. Nicholas sextet will make up the third aggregation. The Crescent Athletic Club will play its home games at the Brooklyn Ice Palace. The St. Nicholas and the Hockey Club teams will use Healy's rink on upper Broadway.

Six games will be played, two in Brooklyn and four at Healy's Rink. At a meeting of the league at the Crescent Athletic Club yesterday it was decided to waive the rule regarding sixty day membership in so far as it effected

schoolboys. The lads who are taking part in the P. S. A. L. championship series at the Brooklyn Ice Palace may compete with the league teams regardless of the membership rule. It will permit Healy's rink, the sensational Erasmus youngsters, to play with the Crescent Athletic Club. Also Hotting and each of Poly Prep.

The first game will be played at Healy's Rink on Thursday night. It will bring together the St. Nicholas and the Hockey Club teams. One game will be played each week until March 21, when the season will end with a clash between the Crescent Athletic Club and the St. Nicholas Hockey Club at the Brooklyn Ice Palace. The schedule is as follows:

February 25, St. Nicholas vs. Hockey Club in Healy's Rink.

February 26, Crescent A. C. vs. Hockey Club in Healy's Rink. February 27, Crescent A. C. vs. Hockey Club in Brooklyn Palace. February 28, St. Nicholas vs. Hockey Club in Healy's Rink. February 29, Crescent A. C. vs. St. Nicholas in Brooklyn Palace.

"I didn't know anyone could be so happy as we have been since we moved into our own home,"

said little Mrs. Smith to her friend Mrs. Brown.

"We wouldn't go back to a flat again if somebody gave us one, rent free."

Is That the Way You Feel About Your Home?

Any one who has built or bought a home in the suburbs has had an experience that makes one of the big events of a lifetime. Most people buy or build but one home. Often the event is the result of years of planning of hunting, of saving. And the day the home is finally occupied is one of those days that go down in the family Bible—with your wedding day and baby's birthday. From that first day in your own home a new chapter begins in the book of life. Your world grows larger; your interest greater; your influence more extensive—you become a man of affairs.

But far back in your mind remain the details of that happy time when you started out to get your own home—how you first had the home owning fever; how you planned your house; how you searched the suburbs for that ideal spot; how you saved; how you visited many dwellings before you found just the one you wanted; how you dickered with owners, and at last—how you bought the place that now stands out in your mind in glowing letters—

Home!

It is a story you have told many times.

THE SUN wants you to tell it again

for the benefit of those who do not yet know the joys of home ownership.

Tell us how you went about getting your home. Did you buy or build? How long did you search before you found your home? How did you finance its purchase? Now that you have it, does it come up to your expectations? Tell us all those little details of your experience that make it one of the great events of your life.

And have you pictures of your home?

Send them with the story—exteriors, interiors, and a floor plan if you have it.

The Sun will publish a series

of stories about "Buying the Home" beginning on Sunday, March 10, and continuing on Sundays following throughout March, April, May and June. Five dollars will be paid for every article published—just enough to buy a new porch hammock, a croquet set or a new set of garden tools. And at the end of the series the writer of the article which the editors of THE SUN deem of greatest interest will be rewarded by a special prize of \$25.

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